

TOLD BY
FIGURESStatistics of Hawaii's
Commerce.

ANNUAL CUSTOMS REPORT

A Strong Showing of the Islands'
Business Prosperity and Steady
Onward March.

Hawaii's well-wishers will find material for the most optimistic trade visions in the report of the Collector General of Customs, just issued from the presses of the Hawaiian Gazette Company. It is a compact volume of 130 pages whose statistical tables give at a glance an index to the business of the Islands. Collector Stackable comments on its contents as follows:

"The commerce of the year has been marked by three special notable characteristics: First, a continuation of the phenomenal imports of last year; second, a moderate increase in exports; and, third, the combined imports and exports form the largest total ever shown by a single year in the history of this country."

His modest estimate of the year's mercantile progress is more than substantiated by the array of figures.

For 1899 the total imports were \$1,650,605.79 as compared with \$1,650,890.81 with the year before. The exports were \$2,628,741.82 for 1899, a credit for Honolulu on the balance sheet of trade of \$3,569,136.03. In 1898 the exports were \$1,346,744.79, a credit balance for that year of \$5,695,853.98. The total foreign commerce for 1899 was \$41,688,347.61 and for 1898, \$28,997,635.69, an increase of \$12,690,712.01 for the past year.

Prosperity's Measure.

A fair measure of the commerce of island ports is the customs revenue, which for the years 1898 and 1899 is as follows:

Ports—	1898	1899
Honolulu	\$873,267 68	\$1,248,487 98
Hilo	14,882 91	32,751 39
Kahului	7,093 59	11,779 58
Mahukona	1,617 52	2,455 00
Kailua	100 00	96 50
Waimea		
(Kauai)	14 00	61 50
Palaau		
Total	\$896,975 70	\$1,295,628 95

This is an increase of \$398,653.25 for the last twelve months. As usual, December shows the largest revenue of the month, being \$169,275 for 1899 as against \$130,436 for 1898, while the receipts in February in 1899 of \$86,764 were the lowest of the year, against \$62,484, the lowest for 1898.

The imports and exports by customs ports were as follows:

Ports—	1898	1899
Honolulu	\$10,023,665 42	\$16,709,534 23
Hilo	787,103 05	1,139,052 58
Kahului	647,846 56	909,816 34
Mahukona	182,178 90	192,172 72
Kailua	10,096 88	14,133 28
Palaau		13,893 54
Total	\$11,650,890 81	\$19,059,605 79

Ports—	1898	1899
Honolulu	\$11,611,510 06	\$15,369,654 44
Hilo	3,463,652 14	5,027,634 45
Kahului	1,843,651 95	2,754,967 05
Mahukona	427,627 64	576,175 88
Kailua		
Palaau		
Total	\$17,346,744 79	\$22,628,741 82

The exports and imports by countries were:

Countries—	1898	1899
U. S.	\$8,695,591 63	\$15,029,839 17
Gr. Brit.	1,287,726 67	1,774,655 52
Germany	352,043 65	384,192 88
China	328,851 87	374,522 00
Japan	354,224 98	673,410 00
Aus. & N.Z.	198,384 61	257,388 04
Canada	283,383 40	113,485 48
Pac. Isles	7,292 12	1,035 48
Chile		222,749 89
France	48,655 55	64,130 26
All others	99,636 33	163,300 51
Total	\$11,650,890 81	\$19,059,605 79

Countries—	1898	1899
U. S.	\$17,256,084 49	\$22,517,758 82
Gr. Brit.		
Germany		
China		
Japan	44,823 25	54,052 00
Aus. & N.Z.	1,873 77	39,863 38
Canada	23,963 28	17,067 62
Pac. Isles		
Chile		
France		
All others		
Total	\$17,346,744 79	\$22,628,741 82

It will be seen that the United States received all the exports from the Islands except a trifle of \$111,000 sent to Japan and China. Australia and Canada. In imports Great Britain is the principal competitor with Uncle Sam, but the latter sent nearly nine times as much in 1899 as did England. Chile's mite of \$22,749. In imports in 1899, was due to that country's sending that value in fertilizers, an innovation of that year.

Classified Exports.

In classified exports the report gives the following figures:

Articles.	1898	1899
Sugar	\$16,614,622 53	\$21,898,190 97
Rice	149,278 14	42,562 00

Articles.	1898	1899
Coffee	\$11,344 80	\$12,421 43
Bananas	10,580 91	84,268 82
Tea	14,485 00	14,429 61
Pepper	100,328 48	101,484 73
Spices	5,013 25	8,948 83
Opium	108,420 00	107,658 00
Alcohol	11,778 70	95,462 46
Wine		
Other	102,782 24	110,269 12
Total	\$17,346,744 79	\$22,628,741 82

How an export dropped from \$119,278 in 1898 to \$42,562 in 1899, which means neither a shortage in the crop of last year nor a loss to rice-growers in the Islands, but that merely the larger Asiatic population in Hawaii took up that much with their chopsticks instead of their going abroad, a statement accentuated by the customs figures of over 27,000 Oriental immigrants in 1899. Sugar exports gained over \$5,000,000 in 1899, coffee \$17,000, and bananas as much. Hides and tallow fell \$25,000.

The Islands' tale of prosperity is told more plainly in some of the figures of the classified imports list than by any words. In 1898 machinery worth \$859,129 was brought in and in 1899, \$2,089,278, a good deal over twice as much as the previous year. Imports of groceries and provisions, \$1,050,263 for 1898, were nearly a half-million more in 1899. Iron and steel imports almost doubled in the twelve months. The following are the figures in detail:

Articles.	1898	1899
Animals	\$125,299 24	\$24,170 39
Buildings		
Material	318,225 15	547,177 51
Clothing		
Books and		
Hats	475,113 16	639,828 09
Coal and		
Coke	608,718 32	343,286 96
Crockery &		
Glassware	69,598 01	109,528 64
Carriages		
& Wagons	144,428 42	220,314 88
Drugs and		
Surgical		
Instants	89,745 73	118,696 72
Fruit Goods	872,301 05	925,712 39
Fertilizer	308,415 21	957,361 05
Grain and		
Feed	441,939 69	588,869 12
Groceries &		
Provs.	1,050,203 73	1,547,953 46
Hardware		
Iron and		
Steel	593,704 41	1,229,764 58
Household		
Furniture	156,341 25	235,518 90
Jewelry		
Clocks		
Etc.	24,925 80	60,424 72
Lumber	350,829 37	630,398 31
Leather	38,792 49	60,604 87
Machinery	859,129 73	2,089,278 54
Naval		
Stores	74,261 31	140,625 44
Paints, etc.	179,936 50	294,824 31
Railroad		
Material	181,672 37	282,326 42
Shooks		
& Bags	293,198 55	405,933 20
Stationery		
& Books	114,028 71	164,984 60
Tobacco		
& Cigars	263,476 24	335,361 19
Wine &		
Spirits	317,498 08	435,830 80
Sundry		
Misc.	2,401,241 57	3,481,310 23
Specie	1,282,075 72	2,890,028 83
Total	\$11,650,890 81	\$19,059,605 79

In American Ships.

American ships did the great bulk of the carrying trade. All other bottoms brought and took away cargoes valued at \$12,000,000 while Yankee vessels handled near \$30,000,000 worth. Imports and exports by British ships were almost \$4,000,000 in 1899 as against \$2,000,000 in 1898, the gain being in imports, as the exports in British bottoms decreased nearly \$400,000 in 1899. The student of commerce will draw the conclusion that the long-looked-for revival in American shipping heralded as a fact last year is showing here. The exact figures for the value of the carrying trade, distributed by the flag of carry vessels are:

Vessels.	1898	1899
American	\$10,023,665 42	\$16,709,534 23
Imports	\$7,028,026 36	\$11,825,562 54
Exports	\$3,139,639 29	\$17,949,720 74
British	\$2,466,116 08	\$3,570,296 94
Imports	\$633,597 46	267,238 01
Exports	\$1,832,518 62	\$3,303,058 93
German	\$3,014,356 84	\$3,673,579 74
Imports	\$535,975 59	\$496,885 70
Exports	\$443,807 26	\$591,198 96
All others	\$2,420 55	\$1,770,392 22
Imports	\$115,287 00	147,034 37
Exports		
Total	\$28,997,635 69	\$41,688,347 61

The following table shows the immigration and passenger movements by nationality for the past two years:

Nationality.	1898	1899
Chinese	3,100 975	9,434 26,103
Japanese		4,095 5,847
All Others		
Total	17,229 32,725	
Departed—		
Nationality.	1898	1899
Chinese	1,784 1,514	
Japanese	2,193 2,780	
All Others	3,336 4,769	
Total	7,313 9,063	

The foregoing is a general summary of the report as given in its first pages. Minute statistical tables in the rest of the volume give the same and allied matters in detail.

Customs Receipts in Detail.

Of the gross customs revenue for 1899 of \$1,295,628, Honolulu paid all but about \$50,000, and of this latter sum Hilo paid \$33,000. Import duties on goods were over \$616,000, of which \$28,000 was for goods bonded. Spirits paid \$355,000, of which \$296,309 worth was bonded. Blanks and stamps contributed \$28,778 to the Treasury, wharfage \$64,809, pilotage \$42,099 hospital fund \$34,700, towage \$25,321, fees \$14,189, passports \$5,129, and coasting licenses \$3,647. The rise of Hawaiian trade, phenomenal since the white man first anchored his ships by its shores, is strikingly exemplified in a table prepared by the Collector General exhibiting the yearly import and export values and customs receipts of the Islands since 1843. That year saw, then, \$2,000 worth of goods imported and \$1,000 worth exported. Now, when we have \$19,059,605 worth of imports and \$11,650,890 worth of exports, showing nearly twenty times the increase in both directions, we have the following:

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
1843	\$2,000	\$1,000
1844	125,450	1,175,492
1845	125,450	1,175,492
1846	125,450	1,175,492
1847	125,450	1,175,492
1848	125,450	1,175,492
1849	125,450	1,175,492
1850	125,450	1,175,492
1851	125,450	1,175,492
1852	125,450	1,175,492
1853	125,450	1,175,492
1854	125,450	1,175,492
1855	125,450	1,175,492
1856	125,450	1,175,492
1857	125,450	1,175,492
1858	125,450	1,175,492
1859	125,450	1,175,492
1860	125,450	1,175,492
1861	125,450	1,175,492
1862	125,450	1,175,492
1863	125,450	1,175,492
1864	125,450	1,175,492
1865	125,450	1,175,492
1866	125,450	1,175,492
1867	125,450	1,175,492
1868	125,450	1,175,492
1869	125,450	1,175,492
1870	125,450	1,175,492
1871	125,450	1,175,492
1872	125,450	1,175,492
1873	125,450	1,175,492
1874	125,450	1,175,492
1875	125,450	1,175,492
1876	125,450	1,175,492
1877	125,450	1,175,492
1878	125,450	1,175,492
1879	125,450	1,175,492
1880	125,450	1,175,492
1881	125,450	1,175,492
1882	125,450	1,175,492
1883	125,450	1,175,492
1884	125,450	1,175,492
1885	125,450	1,175,492
1886	125,450	1,175,492
1887	125,450	1,175,492
1888	125,450	1,175,492
1889	125,450	1,175,492
1890	125,450	1,175,492
1891	125,450	1,175,492
1892	125,450	1,175,492
1893	125,450	1,175,492
1894	125,450	1,175,492
1895	125,450	1,175,492
1896	125,450	1,175,492
1897	125,450	1,175,492
1898	125,450	1,175,492
1899	125,450	1,175,492
1900	125,450	1,175,492

Strangers visiting Honolulu marvel at the busy wharves and crowded harbor. Last year 656 vessels, of a total tonnage of 786,842 tons, entered island harbors, while 643 of 777,480 tons cleared from them. In this list 112 United States Navy vessels and army transports are not included. In 1898 181 entered and 463 cleared, an increase of 201 and 192, respectively, for the past year. Of the vessels entering 188 were steam-powered and 468 sailing ships, and of those clearing 189 steam and 454 sail. With regard to nationality, 60 American steamships and 287 "win-jammers" entered Hawaiian ports, and 61 steamships and 277 sailing vessels cleared. Great Britain sent 89 steamships and 25 "sailers," and 89 and 21, respectively, cleared. Hawaiian steamships to the number of two entered and cleared, while 45 "sailers" departed. Germany entered seven and cleared six sailing vessels, Japan entered and cleared 33 steamships, and of all other countries four steam and four sailing ships came to Hawaii. The list of Hawaiian registered vessels, the island ships which will be turned over to Uncle Sam shortly, shows 27 steamers ranging from 15 to 2,298 tons, nine full-rigged ships, 11 barks, 18 schooners and three sloops.

Passenger Statistics.

During the year 32,472 passengers were landed in Honolulu and 9,063 departed, 253 being refused landing. Immigrants came to the number of 28,080, of whom 975 were Chinese, 26,103 Japanese, 341 Americans and 661 Europeans and Colonials. In 1898 the total number of passengers landed was 17,229, an increase of 15,222 in 1899. Nearly 800 citizens of Hawaii returned from abroad last year, and 3,189 aliens arrived who did not intend to remain in Hawaii. This last number gives a good idea of the extent of the pleasure travel to the Islands.

Statistics of Liquors.

An interesting table is that of spirits drawn for consumption during the year. Hawaiians drank 37,336 pints of French champagne in a twelvemonth, while 201,960 gallons of California wines were consumed. China furnished 3,768 gallons of her native wine, more than 2,000 gallons less than in 1898, and 5,778 gallons of European wine, other than champagne, helped to quench the thirst of our population. Japanese cravings took 149,002 gallons of sake, which was 94,000 more than in 1898. So much for wines. The spirits list is as follows: Alcohol, 4,162 gallons; brandy, 5,497 gallons; bitters and cordials, 813 gallons; gin, 30,711 gallons; rum, 296 gallons; shamschoo, 21,163 gallons, and whiskey, 22,015 gallons. Beer in bottles was drawn to the extent of 65,241 quarts and 25,367 pints, and in kegs and barrels 147,400 gallons. In 1898 the figures were 48,444 quarts, 17,187 pints and 122,392 gallons.

United States Imports.

A dissection of imports from the United States, our principal seller, is a lesson in our necessities and luxuries. Almost everything is on the list. The following shows the imports of live stock and its value: Bulls, 31, \$2,352; cows, 159, \$7,132; goats, 106, \$222; horses, 1,045, \$58,057; pigs and pigs, 5,537, \$43,505; mules, 1,747, \$189,027; sheep, 74, \$686; various, 9,292; chickens and fowls, 2,338, \$3,050; ducks, 12, \$10; geese, 23, \$29; turkeys, 18, \$57; various birds, 43, \$190.

What Clothing Cost.

Clothing of all sorts imported into the Islands in 1899 was valued at over \$550,000, of which about \$205,000 was for boots and shoes. Dry goods and fancy goods, women's "fixings," etc. were imported to the value of nearly \$500,000. Refined sugar made a bill of \$89,540.

From Other Lands.

Germany sent a little of many things but principally building materials, clothing, crockery, drugs, woolens, rugs, hardware, machinery, railroad material and aerated waters. Canada took a weak hand in our imports, her total being \$113,480, and France, \$64,130. France sent about \$10,000 worth of clothing, and \$12,000 in liquors.

China's Queer Foods.

Chinese importations have an especial interest just now, when high authorities point to Asiatic foodstuffs as a probable source of plague infection. The following is a table of the Celestial foods imported, with their respective values: Beans, dry, \$3,099.79; bean stalks, \$5,682.60; bamboo shoots, \$1,596.89; dates, \$119.97; eggs, \$7,401.89; hams, \$22.70; lye, \$7.50; meat, on ice, \$187.52; macaroni and vermicelli, \$1,379.33; mushrooms, \$1,935.17; almonds, \$288.33; various nuts, \$2,490.59; olives, \$611.77; orange and citron peel, \$24.16; oysters, \$3,417.24; peas, dry, \$177.50; rice, \$20,259.85; sago, \$140.90; saucers, Chinese, \$2,406.94; sausages, \$11,957.47; sea weeds, \$208.57; sugar, \$1,184.47; starch, \$1,368.68; tapioca, \$51.16; vinegar, \$8.13; sundry groceries, \$41,479.21.

Japan also has a list of curious provisions: Bamboo shoots, \$151.75; beans, dry, \$